The Gospel applied

THE GOSPEL APPLIED.

James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Intro. The Epistle of James. (Church
Jams, the brother of Jesus, head of Jerusalem
Writes like the prophets of the O.T.

How could James, the bro, of Jesus, mention Jesus but twice?

How could he cite Job as the supreme example of endurance(5:11) instead of Jesus "who endured the cross, despising shame"?

Why was not the letter adopted at once?

James wrote to the unconverted Jews. Had he mentioned Jesus frequently they would not have read. He chose an O.T. character to still further win them over.

James suffered an early death, consequently his letter was rejected by Jews as the work of some Xn martyr; and rejected by Xns because it did not have enough of the Gospel in it.

But we can safely assume that James had in mind the Gospel of Jesus Christ when he spoke of the "law of liberty". Paul in Gal.5:1 "Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free".

I. The Gospel of Jesus Christ has given to the world its ~~greatest~~ mightiest spiritual power.

1. It has revolutionized Civilization.

2. 2. It still sets the highest standard for character, conduct and personal achievement and realization.

3. It still creates within the soul of man the most effectual and enduring hope.

Christ and His Cross still enable a man to live his best and to die in triumph.

The Gospel is, inded, the perfect law of liberty for us,

II. Our text tells us how we can appropriate the Gospel.

1. Whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty.

A thoro investigation of the Gospel in comparison with all other religions and panaceas of mankind will certainly lead us to conclude that the Gospel is the Perfect Law of Liverty.

Submission to its law brings liberty from guilt, from frar, from sinful habits,

2. A Doer of the work.

By submission and obedience to this law we gain its benefits.

True lberty only comes thru obedience.

Only as we obey electricity does it light our homes and cities, run our motors and dymamos and radios.

Only as we obey the law of h health by proper eating, exercise, sleep and sanitation doe we enjoy physical and mental vigor and strength.

The same with the Gosel Law or any other lw.

Too many Xns are the wishing kind and not the willing kind.

"The difference between wills and wishes is the difference between success and failure".

Xns who simply wish to obey God, who wish to be like X, who wish to exemplify the Xn virtues fail.

But Xns who will to do God's will, who will apply the Gospel to their daily need do get the liberty of the Gospel, they appropriate the Gospel Spirit and Power.

We need more Aderle Xns with the "do or die" spirit.

Concl. Attended the Graduating Exercises of the State Teachers College at San Jose The acting principles advice to the cla class. "Make for your bosom friends these three- Cheerfulness, Application, Integrity."

The secret of Xn living is Cheerful and unreserved accaptance of the Gospel, and faithful application of it; then there comes to one who thus lives the Gospel fr from year to year that integrity of character and that solidity of hope which eternity itself cannot destroy.